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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important news items of the week occurring in the industrial, labor, and business fields. It also contains information that will benefit the trade union movement.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 969.

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1929.

FRANK MORRISON, Secretary

VOL. 19, NO. 34.

HEFLIN ASKS DATA ON FASCIST LEAGUE

Washington, Nov. 2.—A resolution introduced by Senator Hefflin of Alabama calls upon the Secretary of State to furnish the Senate with a list of activities by the Fascist League of North America.

The work of this organization, that is an organ to Mussolini's government, has been repeatedly condemned by the American people and exposed by the labor press.

The Hefflin resolution, inspired by an article in a popular magazine, is along the lines so often expressed by labor.

It is stated that every Italian newspaper in this country, but two, have been brought under the Fascist influence; that Italian immigrants are urged to forsake American citizenship; that Italian schools in this country teach the Fascist (autocratic) philosophy; that former residents of Italy, who visit the land of their birth, are arrested.

BRITISH LABOR PARTY FACES MANY PROBLEMS

London, England, Nov. 2.—The British parliament convened Tuesday, October 29. The session may last until the summer of next year, unless the 269 Conservatives and 58 Liberals unite to defeat the Labor Party on an important question.

In this event parliament will be dissolved, and Prime Minister MacDonald will "appeal to the country."

Unity between the two parties is quite improbable, however. The Conservatives are leading in the polls, and a political party from the scene as a political force has lost its political vitality or its physical power. The people, as a whole, are inclined to support the Conservatives and "give Labor a chance."

While Labor is in a dispirited mood, Mr. MacDonald is confronted by many problems. The economic situation is of first importance, with mining, textiles and general unemployment leading. "Left wing" in the party are attacking Miss Margaret Bondfield, minister of labor, for failing to liberalize unemployment payments. She has promised to "remedy the outstanding unemployment problem," but is ignored by the majority of the party is committed to the seven-hour day for miners, and the six-hour day for others.

The resolution of one hour a day will threaten this industry, that is attempting to stage a general strike. The government will be called upon to enforce its plan to enforce relief. When it does, the program will surely be challenged.

The government is also facing a leading issue, as are strained relations with France over war reparations, payments and general unrest in British dominions and dependencies in the Far East.

VICIOUS INJUNCTION BREAKS ALL RECORDS

Nazareth, Penn., Nov. 2.—A protest mass meeting against labor injunctions issued by the Federal District Court here was held just outside this borough. The orators, who were on strike against the Kraemer Hosiery Company.

The injunction is a record, even for the area of Connecticut, where "thou-shalt-not" equity courts. Every guarantee in the constitution is annulled and workers are prohibited from using the mails to solicit strikebreakers on either side of the controversy.

The employers are aided by borough officials who prohibited meetings and passed a special ordinance making it illegal to distribute literature. The meeting was held outside the town limits.

U. S. RADIO PROGRAMS FAVORED BY OFFICIALS

Washington, Nov. 2.—Radio programs sponsored by the Federal Government is a possibility.

Harold A. LaFollette, Federal Radio Commissioner, has favored the plan, as does J. R. Robinson, chairman of the committee. The latter has been put on a committee of consideration for its public income every year, but it has been put on informative, educational and inspirational programs.

Many citizens approve Mr. Robinson's plan, but there are not enough programs of an educational character, and that there is too much advertising and tin-pan music.

CITY MAY BAR ALIENS

San Diego, Cal., Nov. 2.—Superior Court Judge Charles E. Haines ruled that any political subdivision of the State may stipulate that only citizens shall be employed on city work. A contractor asked for an injunction to prevent the city from enforcing the ordinance, but that provision in a bond issue. With cheap Mexican labor, the city has been able to claim that the citizens' clause would increase the cost of the work.

"RELIEF FROM LABOR INJUNCTION" "ORGANIZE THE SOUTH!"

Relief from the labor injunction and organize the South are outstanding demands of the A. F. of L. convention at Toronto.

Their fulfillment will call for unusual effort and a sacrificial spirit.

The evils of the labor injunction are too well known to discuss the need for correction. The Executive Council is authorized to make any change in the bill that further study and developments warrant.

The Council may propose changes or repeal, or both, of the anti-trust laws which are used to fasten "conspiracy" charges on labor.

To organize the South is a gigantic task that should—and must—attract every trade unionist and sympathizer. This vast area is being industrially developed. Herein is the latest exploitation of wage earners, and many sections, necessarily, are unacquainted with the purposes of organized labor.

The Executive Council has been instructed to call a conference of national and international representatives to inaugurate this campaign, that will include every craft and occupation.

Never before has a trade union convention taken on such a large order.

For workers in better-paid sections of the country to ignore this situation is to invite competition with a new low-wage element that is being mobilized from mountain areas and farm lands.

Trade unionists should have no illusion on the task that confronts them. Education and agitation is the one force that can break down prejudices and viewpoints that have no place in present-day orders. These prejudices and viewpoints are the logical result of a strict individualism that fitted into the life of former mountaineers and farmers.

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LABOR SPY IS FINED; KUSTED FROM PASSAGE

Passaic, N. J., Nov. 2.—Ralph Robinson, labor spy who attempted to bribe Carl Holderman, representative of the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers, was fined \$500 and driven out of Passaic for five years by Judge Wm. B. Harley.

The undercover man was employed by the Railway Audit and Inspection Service, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Robinson" whose real name is O. G. Williams, was given a terrific beating by Judge Harley, the court told the racketeer that he was to be driven out of Passaic for five years.

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INDUSTRY NOT WORTH ONE LASH ON WORKERS

Washington, Nov. 2.—"The entire textile industry is not worth one lash on the back of the mill workers," the Rev. Laura Donald E. Ribberg, well-known Chicago attorney, told a group of women workers at the Women's Union.

Both New England and the South must answer for the present textile war, she said.

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BLOCK THAT RADIO MONOPOLY

No thinking man will deny that a radio monopoly—control of the air—will be considered by private interests.

The A. F. of L. convention at Toronto called attention to this probability, and demanded that labor's station WCFB, Chicago, be given an unlimited wave length. These privileges are distributed among select corporations and metropolitan newspapers that use them for their private interests.

The fight for freedom of the air should be waged now. It is unwise to wait until privilege is entrenched, when it can set up its usual claim of "public rights."

Radio communication is still in its infancy. Far-sighted trade unionists realize this fact and their fight will be appreciated by future generations.

Every lover of freedom should protest to Senators and Congressmen at Washington, D. C., against monopolization of the air.

An influential group of Congressmen are alert to this danger. They should be urged to bring this can be done by developing a strong public opinion against the latest privilege seekers.

FEEDING TAFFY TO WORKERS

The Assistant Secretary of Commerce is jubilant over employment of workers.

Writing in the Magazine of Wall Street, he says this system "is bringing the laborer directly into the deliberative councils of those shaping the policies of industry."

It is unfortunate that even a few of such industries are not listed. It would be interesting, especially to workers, to know that the list includes the rubber, steel, oil, copper, lumber, auto and farm machinery.

Employment-stock ownership is not intended to give labor a voice in the management of the industry. The system is used to "keep labor contented."

The public utilities, following the war, discovered that if each customer owned one or two shares of stock this was an insupportable mass of small shareholders and it also lessened public hostility if rates were to be raised.

The scheme, later, was applied to industry.

To say it gives labor a voice is to say it is continually changed as workers discover the sham.

FALL FOUND GUILTY IN OIL BRIBE CASE

Washington, Nov. 2.—A District of Columbia jury declared that Albert B. Fall is guilty of having accepted a bribe of \$100,000 from E. L. Doherty, oil executive, in connection with a lease on the Government of reserves at Elk Hills, Calif. Fall was Secretary of the Interior in 1919.

The name of the oil executive, who was a member of the President's cabinet. It is also the first conviction secured in the oil scandal since the resignation of the President's cabinet.

"Of course," said Mr. Ribberg, "it is a disgraceful thing to do, but it is a thing that has been done for years."

HUGE GAS SUPPLIES WASTED ON COAST

Los Angeles, Nov. 2.—The Superior Court here has ordered that the gas companies stop the waste of gas on the coast.

The Lyons act was passed by the last State Assembly, and is intended to stop the loss of 800,000 cubic feet of gas a day, which is estimated to be the waste of gas on the coast.

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MASS-OUTPUT SPEED ENDANGERS WORKERS

Washington, Nov. 2.—The pressure for speed with which the worker is confronted by a hearing on the "mass-output speed" charges, said J. C. Wright, director Federal Board of Labor-Management Relations.

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WANT TROOPS IN MARION

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 2.—R. W. Bald, president Marion Manufacturing Company, accompanied by several other leaders, called on Governor Gardner to continue troops in that strike zone.

Several men have been killed by deputies after the company repudiated its offer of a new contract. The strike was ended by the troops.

New Processes Bring Idleness; Revolution In Every Industry

Worcester, Mass., Nov. 2.—Elliott Stewart, commissioner United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, speaking at the New England Labor Congress, gave no encouragement to unemployed skilled craftsmen who have been displaced by the machine and who hope they may readjust themselves along lines which will afford them former wages.

This position is "absurd," declared Mr. Stewart. In most cases, he said, a complete industrial re-education will be necessary, and in many instances the men will have to be separated entirely from the industry in which they were employed.

More than 400 delegates attended the meeting, the purpose of which was to discuss the increasing unemployment problem. Mr. Stewart, secretary-treasurer United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters.

Mr. Stewart said that the "new processes" are not only present in the machine and who hope they may readjust themselves along lines which will afford them former wages.

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The thing does not exist and what is said about it—Emerson.

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RAILROADS RESIST PROFITS' PAY: LONG COURT CONTEST PROBABLE

Washington, Nov. 2.—Plans to collect excess profits from railroads are being worked out by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

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